Application No.: 10/558,549 Docket No.: 17170/018001

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

1.- 6. (canceled)

- 7. (new) A starter for a thermal combustion engine of a vehicle, comprising:
 - an electrical engine comprising a cylindrical head; and
 - an interfacing support to be mounted on the thermal combustion engine, said interfacing support being assembled with the cylindrical head and having an outer surface,
 - wherein the cylindrical head comprises one of a projection and a slot, and the interfacing support comprises on its outer surface the other of the projection and the slot, and
 - wherein the projection and the slot are configured to cooperate with one another both for angularly immobilizing the cylindrical head relative to the support and for forming a water evacuation outlet orifice.
- (new) The starter according to claim 7, wherein the support further comprises one or more slots for receiving the projection.
- (new) The starter according to claim 7, wherein the slot is integrated in a circular contact of the support.
- 10. (new) The starter according to claim 7, wherein a water evacuation is performed through a baffle.
- 11. (new) The starter according to claim 7, wherein the water evacuation is direct through the outlet orifice.
- 12. (new) The starter according to claim 7, wherein the water evacuation is direct through the outlet orifice.

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13. (new) The starter according to claim 7, wherein the outlet orifice is configured such that the water is evacuated through said outlet orifice along an axial direction.

- 14. (new) The starter according to claim 7, wherein the outlet orifice is configured such that the water is evacuated through said outlet orifice along a radial direction.
- 15. (new) The starter according to claim 7, wherein the projection extends axially.
- 16. (new) A starter for a thermal combustion engine of a vehicle, comprising:
 - an electrical engine comprising a cylindrical head, said cylindrical head comprising an axial projection extending from a frontal end of the cylindrical head;
 - an interfacing support to be mounted on the thermal combustion engine, said interfacing support being assembled with the cylindrical head, and comprising a clearance configured to receive the projection of the cylindrical head for angularly immobilizing the cylindrical head relative to the support and for forming a water evacuation outlet orifice.
- 17. (new) The starter according to claim 16, wherein the water evacuation outlet orifice comprises an axial portion formed between the projection of the cylindrical head and the interfacing support.

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